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REPORT
REPORT

OF THE

Maryland Union Commission

MAY 1, 1866.



BALTIMORE:
PRINTED BY SHERWOOD & CO.
N. W. COR. BALTIMORE AND GAY STS.

1866.



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G. S. GRIFFITH.

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3. HON. J. M. FRAZIER.

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Corner Calvert and Baltimore Sts.

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REV. GEO. P. HAYS,
REV. SAM'L. BARNES,
REV. J. O. MILLER, *York, Pa.*
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JESSE TYSON,
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J. HENRY GEISE,
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MARYLAND UNION COMMISSION.

WITH unfeigned gratitude to the Giver of all good do we review the happy results of the work of the Maryland Union Commission, and present the same to the consideration of those who have supported our operations. In so doing, it is but proper to set forth, briefly as possible, the *occasion*, the *history*, and the *results* of our efforts to alleviate the suffering and promote the good of that section of our common country which, most of all, has felt the desolation of civil war.

THE ORIGIN.

On the 18th of April, 1865, while the blood stains were yet fresh upon the battle-fields, feeling the pressure of the want and woe of our fellow-countrymen at the South, at the instigation of G. S. Griffith, Esq., a meeting was convened at the rooms of the Christian Commission, 91 West Baltimore street, to take into consideration the propriety of an organization, the object of which should be to ameliorate the condition of the suffering thousands in the South. Similar associations had been formed in other cities, New York being the central, others auxiliary. The Christian and Sanitary Commissions, whose noble work had been known and read of all men, had ceased to exist with the war. At this meeting it was unanimously resolved to appoint a committee, consisting of Messrs. John N. Brown, Wm. B. Canfield, Dr. J. C. Thomas and Rev. E. R. Eschbach, to make all necessary arrangements, and to call a more general meeting at as early a day as possible, for the purpose of a permanent organization. There was no time for delay, and accordingly but little was spent in perfecting the plan intended. A meeting was called at the rooms of the

Young Men's Christian Association, 160 W. Baltimore street, a Constitution was adopted, officers and Board of Managers elected, and every necessary arrangement completed for the speedy accomplishment of its benevolent mission.

PLAN AND PURPOSES.

The avowed purpose of this Society, as set forth in the first article of the Constitution, was to "co-operate with the people of the South in rendering assistance to those who were in want and had been impoverished by the ravages of war, and to save for the country by timely generosity the thousands of refugees whom the tides of war had cast upon our hands."

The assistance was to consist in feeding the hungry and clothing the naked; in providing employment for the able, and homes for the disabled; in furnishing the husbandmen with seed, corn, and the implements of industry; in assisting others to reach distant homes and relations, who were able to assist them. The entire work of the Commission was to be carried on upon a basis of *Industry, Education, Freedom and Christian Morality*. That there was great necessity for some such organization not a doubt existed in the minds of true philanthropists. The messages borne upon every breeze from the South were appeals for help. Multitudes had been suddenly impoverished; thousands, whose happy homes once rang with the music of merry voices, were now overwhelmed with the disasters of a ruinous war, and hushed to a moody silence in the despair of an almost hopeless destitution. The farmer looked wearily around him, being deprived of every means to secure a harvest. His implements, seed, all were gone. Everything was lost in many districts. Appeals without number came up with increasing earnestness from the land of woe. Everywhere the signal of distress was held up to catch the eye and secure the attention of disinterested benevolence. All agreed that something must be done. How and by what means the money was to be raised for the purpose was now the question to be settled by this organization.

PROGRESS.

The first movement of importance was to call a public meeting, that the purposes of this Society might be presented to the people, and their sympathy and co-operation be secured, without which

there could be no success. This meeting was accordingly convened in the Charles street M. E. Church. Revs. Drs. Cyrus Dickson, Thomas Sewall, with several others, addressed the meeting in behalf of the Commission. The appeals made by these speakers produced the desired effect. They were pointed, earnest, able, and created a proper impression as to the importance of the work contemplated. A new impetus was given to the Commission, and a more permanent and decided form to its organization, as well as to its operations. Soon after a second meeting was deemed expedient, which was held on the evening of the first of June, the day appointed by the President as a day of humiliation and prayer, with reference to the late lamented President Lincoln.

On the appointed evening the house was well filled, Mr. G. S. Griffith presiding. After the necessary preliminaries, Rev. Geo. P. Hays arose and stated that the necessity of organizing a Union Commission in Baltimore appeared from the number of refugees that daily flocked to the Christian Commission rooms for help to return to their homes, from which they had, been driven by a merciless conscription. Twenty-five and thirty are coming daily. And then the utter destitution of many portions of country where the armies had passed and repassed, devouring and destroying everything, forced upon the community the necessity of some organization to meet this condition of things. The money and stores contributed for the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers and sailors could not be diverted from its original design. Many confounded the U. S. Christian Commission and the American Union Commission, by supposing they were one and the same thing. The U. S. Christian Commission had been organized with reference to the army and navy, but the Union Commission had been organized with reference to citizens that had been reduced to poverty and distress by the war.

He was followed by Rev. Dr. Cyrus Dickson, who, in a very interesting manner, gave an account of the origin and history of the American Union Commission, which had really begun its operations a few hours after the evacuation of Richmond, distributing to all alike without discrimination. Besides the vast quantities of flour, bacon, tea, coffee, sugar, crackers, &c., &c., there were other arrangements made for the relief and comfort of the desti-

tute. The necessity of further aid was then earnestly pressed upon the audience by a faithful representation of the prevailing distress. As motives, a common christianity and patriotism were urged. Rev. Lyman Abbott, Secretary of the Commission in New York, followed in an address explaining the character of the Commission, its objects and plans, its work, and the means of its operation.

His picture of the condition of the South, illustrated as it was by affecting incidents of the suffering, could not but move the audience. Rev. Isaac P. Cook, in a few pertinent remarks, corrected the erroneous impression that the Commission was intended to encourage and foster those who had labored to overthrow the Government. The meeting was a success, the collection amounting to over twelve hundred dollars. The notices of the press were kind and encouraging, and the exercises were regarded as a fitting close to the solemnities of the day. The work went on successfully; agents were appointed to collect, others to disburse the funds. These were at very small expense to the Commission. In a short time* the entire Shenandoah Valley was explored by a competent committee, and agencies established all along the route from Winchester to Woodstock, from Berryville to Charlestown, for gratuitous co-operation and distribution. Others volunteered to do freely the work of the Society in the way of exploring the field and relieving the destitute, among whom were Revs. W. S. Edwards and J. O. Miller.

Meanwhile, letters came daily from the needy, representing all classes of society and all parts of the country. In response to these letters of application, goods and medicines of every description were forwarded to agents for distribution, or to individuals whose need was well authenticated. Blessings were thus conveyed to thousands, and many households were made glad through the aid we were enabled to furnish them. At a meeting of the Executive Committee in New York on the 9th of January, 1866, the proposition of uniting with the Freedmen's Aid Society was submitted to the Commission by the Parent Society of New York.

✓ Up to this time the Commission had sustained the relation of an auxiliary to that of New York. The proposition was made in order to preserve the union of the Parent Society with the Baltimore organization, in the event of a union with the former, with

the Freedmen's Aid Society. This proposition was, however, unanimously declined upon the ground that the government and agencies already at work were showing proper interest in the welfare of the colored race. It was thought, too, by reason of our peculiar surroundings, such a union would be inexpedient, if not disastrous, to the Commission here. There was no question as to the propriety and humanity of caring for them; but that work being in the hands of those whose opportunities qualified them for it, it was deemed unwise to enter into a new relation. From this time the Maryland Union Commission became a distinct and independent organization, and as such issued new appeals to the people of Maryland, to which there were liberal responses. As the winter came on with greater severity, applications for aid became more numerous, and editorial as well as individual representations still more painful. The *Richmond Republic*, a loyal and trustworthy paper, described the state of things as "enough to melt the sternest heart, bidding fair to assume proportions of horror in the approaching winter, which curdled the blood to contemplate. Money is scarce; means of subsistence high. The wheat crop throughout the South is a failure, and though the corn crop is an unusually fine one for the area cultivated, yet the area, owing to the obstructions in planting from various causes, is exceedingly limited. It makes the heart bleed to think of the suffering which, if some efficient measures are not adopted for relief, may be the terrible lot of thousands of our people when the rigors of winter shall aggravate the horrors of the present destitution." A letter from Rev. C. A. Raymond, Judge of the United States Military Court of the District of the Peninsula of Virginia, to the President of the Commission, sets forth the same picture of want and woe. "Perhaps," he writes, "in no part of the South has there been more general deprivations than in the counties just above us. There are now but few portions of the country whose prospect for the future are more gloomy than theirs. Not that this section has ever been a battle-ground merely, but from the fact that, at the beginning of the war, under the influence of simple panic, nearly the whole peninsula was abandoned. After an absence of nearly four years of unparalleled want and suffering, the survivors returned to find their homes occupied by others, their stock consumed, and their personal effects, as well as other

implements of husbandry, destroyed. Many are widows, many orphans, and the winter, with all its severities in prospect, threatens accumulated misery. They need everything, especially bedding, clothing, wheat for seed, and farming implements." To meet this want, new and fresh efforts had to be made. Already the treasury had been overdrawn by former demands, while every new revelation proved the suffering and want equal to the most painful description. Circulars were issued, setting forth in a condensed form this state of things, together with the objects of the Society, and sent to the pastors of the various congregations throughout the State. These served a good purpose. As a result, hundreds of dollars were contributed for the work by churches and individuals. With an increase of funds, there was a corresponding ability to effect the purposes of the Commission. It is but proper to state that, while the Commission was intent upon relieving the temporal wants of sufferers, they by no means neglected the important matter of the mind and morals; for this purpose near ten thousand Bibles, testaments, tracts, religious papers, books and periodicals, were distributed among them, which were appreciated, and we have good reason to believe that, through the blessing of God, they have been the means of accomplishing great good.

CONCLUSION.

Thus, in as brief a manner as possible, the reader has in detail the *origin, purpose, plans* and *progress* of the Maryland Union Commission. It must not be supposed that success smiled upon us as the reward of our efforts without difficulty; on the contrary, there was much to contend against in the outset. Embarrassments and difficulties were often in the way of the Executive Committee. Some looked upon the whole work with suspicion; others would allow a mistaken notion of it to deter them from rendering needed assistance. Want of sympathy and co-operation naturally had its discouraging effect upon them. But, stimulated by the pure desire to relieve and elevate suffering humanity, regardless of every form of difficulty, they labored on, and the results attest the energy with which the work was carried forward. It is but just to say here, that much is due to the disinterested energy of the President, who never wearied of the arduous duties

imposed upon him by reason of his relation to the Commission. Led on by the example of his generosity and untiring devotion to the cause, they were constantly stimulated to labor for the benefit of the needy.

The *economy* with which the work was carried on is worthy of special notice. A very small amount has been expended in the item of agencies, appliances, &c. The same machinery which served the Christian Commission, to a great extent, carried on the work of the Union Commission. Many of the agents were at work gratuitously. A portion of the time Adams & Co.'s Express carried the goods free of expense. The rooms and appliances in which the local work was done were given gratuitously by the President, so that nearly all the money contributed to the cause went directly to the intended object. With such advantages, it is not very wonderful that the Commission has accomplished what it did. It lost but little time in its earliest movements. Almost the first work done was that of inspecting the field of labor, and of ascertaining what was to be done, and by what means. In the very beginning, various parts of Virginia were explored by members of the Board. Committees of reference and co-operation were appointed at the various towns and villages along the Valley. Every arrangement was made to increase and continue the work of relief. Winchester was selected as the chief depot of supplies. While prosecuting the work thus vigorously in the South, the Commission was none the less active at home. Daily Southern refugees arrived, and their utter destitution required immediate aid. These were cared for—fed, clothed, and in many cases provided with comfortable and permanent homes, where they are now doing well. Thus has this Society done what it could for the relief of the suffering. In its efforts to relieve, it has been influenced by the purest motives. It never stopped to ask “who is my neighbor?” but, like the good Samaritan, lifted up the faint and fallen, whether friend or foe, and administered the oil and wine of substantial relief. All alike were the objects of its sympathy and care; and while many imperfections remain to be deplored, yet it is with unaffected gratitude that the objects of its organization have been so well attained, and that so great good has been accomplished; and while ours is the happiness, to God be all the glory.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED.

296 W. FAYETTE STREET, BALTIMORE, Dec. 8, 1865.

Mr. G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. Union Com. :

DEAR BRO. :—The two hundred dollars with which you were kind enough to supply me for distribution in Virginia, gave much needed relief to a number of families that came to my notice during my recent visit to that State. I endeavored to seek out the most needy and the most deserving among them. I disbursed one hundred and seventy dollars to nine different families, all of them greatly reduced by the war, and some of them in an absolutely suffering condition. Thirty dollars I left in the hands of a reliable Christian gentleman for the benefit of some parties whom I could not reach in person. I was careful to state the source from whence the relief came—the Union Commission. I know of no enterprise more deserving the prayers and support of Christian people than that represented by you.

No statements I have seen equal the facts as to the destitution of the masses of the Southern people. Without immediate help, there must be great suffering. Clothing is especially needed. I saw women and children hardly sufficiently clad for summer. May the Father of mercies, who blesses the evil and the good, give you His smiles in your work of faith and love.

I regret my detention from your meeting last night. Our collection for the Commission, yesterday, was a little upwards of a hundred dollars. With thanks for your kindness, and prayer for your success,

I remain, yours truly,

WM. S. EDWARDS,

Pastor Fayette Street M. E. Church, Baltimore, Md.

BARNUM'S CITY HOTEL, BALTIMORE, Jan. 29, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Md. Union Com. :

DEAR SIR :—I beg leave to say to you, that I am now in this city as the representative of "The Union and Church Hill Humane Association" of the city of Richmond, Va. The object of this Association is to afford *immediate assistance* to the necessitous and starving poor, living on the suburbs of the city, outside the corporation limits, many of whom have been thrown out of their habitations in mid-winter, without means to command a shelter, or to purchase bread for themselves and helpless children. The greatest sufferers are the widows and orphans, many of whom must have speedy relief, or they must perish. The citizens of Richmond and its vicinity have done, and are *now* doing all they can to assist these breadless, penniless sufferers; but it is impossible, in the present condition of our people, to raise a sufficiency of money to meet the demands upon us. In view of the inadequacy of our means, I have ventured to submit the claims of our Association, through you, to the favorable consideration of the benevolent institution over which you have the honor to preside. I present it to you, on the broad ground of suffering humanity. Any donation in money, clothing, or provisions, which it may be the

pleasure of the Maryland Branch of the Am. Union Commission to make to the Association which I have the honor to represent, in this application, will be gratefully acknowledged, duly reported, and judiciously applied. I shall remain in the city until Thursday afternoon of this week, during which time any communication addressed to me at 234 Barnum's Hotel, or at the office of Wm. T. Smithson, Esq., 224 Baltimore street, will receive prompt acknowledgment.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, and to hear something favorable for the urgent cause that calls me to your city as a solicitor for alms,
I am, my dear sir, yours, very respectfully,

JNO. E. EDWARDS.

BALTIMORE, February 2, 1866.

Mr. G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. Branch Am. Union Com. :

DEAR SIR :—Allow me to return, through you, my very sincere thanks to the Association which you represent, for the fifty dollars appropriated to the relief of the sufferers on the suburbs of Richmond, Va. ; and also for the box of clothing forwarded to A. Y. Stokes, Esq., for the same object.

Very respectfully,

JNO. E. EDWARDS.

PRINCE EDWARD COURT HOUSE, March 10, 1866.

Mr. G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. Union Com. :

DEAR SIR :—With heartfelt gratitude do I sign the receipt. I am thankful for any assistance whatever. Am only sorry that your funds are nearly exhausted, as I know many poor creatures will suffer who would not if you had the means.

May God bless the Union Commission forever is the prayer of you friend,

MRS. J. R. B.

PRINCE EDWARD COURT HOUSE, VA., Dec. 29, 1865.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Md. Union Com. :

DEAR SIR :—It is with a trembling hand and sad heart that I pen these lines, but can but hope my tale of sorrow will have a listening ear and a heart ready to assist the needy. Like many Southern families, we are left poor and needy, and no one in our once flourishing State to call on for aid. Hearing of the societies that are formed for such as are in my destitute condition, I am emboldened to call on our Northern friends to ask for help. I am a widow with seven children, and am left entirely without means to buy the most essential articles. My children must grow up in ignorance, which, to me, is most distressing. I can but beg that the Union Commission will aid us. The Northern people can form but a faint idea of the situation of the Virginians. The armies have desolated us. I beg you will send me means for our immediate relief, to purchase clothes and provisions, for which I am sure God will bless you.

The above is certified to by a most respectable gentleman in Virginia.

WENTS WORTH, March 15.

Mr. G. S. Griffith :

DEAR SIR :—Being anxious to obtain assistance, and having heard of your

Commission for the relief of the poor of the South, we beg that you will aid us, as we lost everything during the war.

With respect,

MISSES W

P. S.—Please direct to Fredericksburg, Va.

FREDERICKSBURG, March 20.

Mr. G. S. Griffith:

DEAR SIR:—Please accept our thanks for the fifteen dollars which you so kindly sent us. With feelings of gratitude, we are your true friends,

MISSES W.

CHATTERTON P. O., King George Co., Va., March 17, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Md. Union Com.:

DEAR SIR:—I have heard lately that your Society has been giving relief to those at the South who have lost nearly all means of support. I would respectfully state that I have lost nearly everything of value; besides, I have had a sick family for several months. May I ask, if you have the funds, to send me a small sum, assuring you that it will be most thankfully received.

Yours, respectfully,

Mrs. J. M.

NEAR CHATTERTON P. O., March 29, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. Union Com.:

DEAR SIR:—Herewith enclosed you will find receipt for ten dollars. Please accept my sincere thanks for the aid.

Yours, very truly,

Mrs. J. M.

FAIRMONT, Dec. 26, 1865.

Rev. F. Israel:

DEAR BROTHER:—I have just returned from Charleston, Big Kanawha, and I know not how to describe the condition of things there better than to say to you that they are much as they are about Winchester. Much of the town has been destroyed, and quite a number of the best buildings burned.—Business very much prostrated, money scarce, and all the material of living scarce and high; and as would naturally follow such a state of things, a very large amount of suffering and want is the result; and this will be constantly increased as the winter advances. Something has been done by a few of the benevolent who have something left them to relieve this state of things, and a little by the county, but it is only as the drop of the bucket compared to the real want. Mr. Greenbury Slack tells me that not a day passes that he is not applied to for help.

It was very rainy and cold while I was at Charleston, and I could not get out in the country much; but I will give you the result of one day, and Mr. Slack is to furnish me with a list in a few days, more full.

I found four widows of soldiers, husbands all died in the army, representing thirteen children. All very poor.

I came across an old man, Mr. Marshal, blind, and two small grand-children, very poor indeed.

A Mr. Coleman and wife, very old and very poor. Besides the above, a Mr. Selby, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Burk, and Mrs. Marshal, all deeply needy.

Mr. Sanford, who was with me, and has given all the attention that he could to the matter, says that if they could get help in the way of clothing and shoes, he thinks they would make out for bread. I will now say that I think I could get a considerable amount of supplies from Wheeling for Kanawha region. Shall I do it?

I have made arrangements to have the supplies sent from Elenboro to Glenville. Have you forwarded them as requested? Have you sent to my own address at Clarksburg a box or package for Mrs. Elison and children?

The things have gone safe to Centreville, and I will be there this week myself, and will report on my return home more fully.

Yours, very truly, &c.

J. L. IRWIN.

RICHMOND, VA., March 10th, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Md. Union Com.:

DEAR SIR:—I had the pleasure and honor on yesterday to receive both the box and check sent by you.

Allow me to return you on behalf of those who are to be the beneficiaries, as well as on my own behalf as an agent in this matter, our most sincere thanks. Our prayers are that Heaven's blessings may rest on you and on the Society.

Enclosed you will please find the receipt signed.

With many wishes for your success and happiness, I am, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. H. HAYNES.

NEAR EDENSBURG, VA., February 28, 1866

Mr. G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. Union Com.:

DEAR SIR:—Your very welcome letter reached me last night, and I must acknowledge that I feel at a loss to know how to utter my thanks and deep feelings of gratitude for the remittance and the interest you have taken in my destitute condition. We are without a home and penniless, and I do not know what may be my future destiny, or in what quarter of the globe my mournful pilgrimage may lie, but of this I am sure, while memory lasts, I can never forget the Maryland Union Commission.

Yours, truly,

Mrs. M. C. S.

FARMVILLE, February 21st, 1866.

Mr. Griffith:

SIR:—Your letter containing the kind donation was duly received and appreciated. It brings relief at a time when most needed, and has filled our hearts with undying gratitude. May the Lord reward you and those united with you in relieving the wants of the destitute in this our once happy but now suffering country. The box you kindly promise has not yet arrived. I hope it will come safely to hand, as its contents are much needed by myself and niece.

Enclosed you will find the receipt with my name affixed.

With the deepest gratitude,

A. L. W

CHARLESTON, May 1, 1866.

Mr. G. S. Griffith:

MY DEAR SIR:—Please accept the grateful acknowledgments of myself and many friends for the generous donations of Sunday-school books you have been pleased to send us. Situated as you are amid flourishing trade and the attendant comforts of peaceful and prosperous life, you are scarcely prepared to estimate the value and importance of the gifts you have thus bestowed. Your books have started into life some six Sunday-schools, which, without your generosity would have been still dead. The desolations of war not only reached our home: it swept over our churches, and we never can forget the kindness and sympathy of our Maryland brethren, who, ignoring the past, looked only to the present and the future, and gave this “cup” of blessing to “these, the least of Christ’s disciples.” God bless you, sir, in your good work.

The intimations that have reached us, that the Union Commission will soon close its labors, have been painful indeed to us; but yourself and co-laborers have the proud consciousness that your piety has enabled you to rise above sectional strife, and your philanthropy above party contest.

Yours, very truly, F. A. MOOD,
Presiding Elder Charleston District and Editor Weekly Record.

GOLDSBORO’, N. C., March 17, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Union Com., Baltimore, Md.:

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find receipt for (\$15) fifteen dollars, for the benefit of two indigent families of this community, for which accept both my and their grateful acknowledgments. I will immediately expend for their use the amount received, and inform them the source of this benefaction. With the sincere wish that all who are in any way connected with your humane and charitable organization may realize that “it is more blessed to give than to receive,” I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant, JNO. F. MILLER.

SALISBURY, N. C., Nov. 2, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq.:

MY DEAR BROTHER:—I hereby gratefully acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 5th and 10th ult., the former containing \$25 from the “Com. of the Union Commission,” and \$5 from the Rev. J. W. Santee, Cavetown, Md., and the latter containing \$5, to pay freight on box books. For the timely aid, thus furnished, I tender my thanks to you and the body you represent. The reading matter sent has not yet reached me, but is looked for with great anxiety by my people. The kind sympathy thus manifested is highly appreciated by us. May the Lord abundantly bless you and the Union Commission for your labor of love. I wish here to express my conviction, that nothing has done, or will do so much, to bring the two sections of our country into harmony as the labors of the U. Com. All good men in the South rejoice over the great and good work of the “Christian Commission,” and now their hearts are made glad with the operations of the “U. Com.”

It is due to myself to say, that the acknowledgment has been delayed in consequence of severe affliction in my family.

Yours, most sincerely,

THORNTON BUTLER.

SHAW'S MILLS, N. C., May 16, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Pres. Md. U. Com. :

DEAR BRO. :—I cannot deny myself the pleasure of expressing my sense of the value of the good work achieved by the Maryland Union Commission, and also of my personal indebtedness. My own indebtedness is two-fold : First, for acts of Christian kindness toward myself in those dark hours of suffering and want that have fallen upon us, and for which we daily invoke the blessing of God on our benefactors ; second, it put upon me the great honor of being the almoner of its bounty to others—of your gifts to the suffering and the poor.

Your work was a noble Christian charity, and will remain as one of those peculiar fruits of our holy faith. Yours was the honorable work to feed the hungry, relieve the poor, minister to those in distress, for Christ. As I have seen the joy and heard the thanks of the needy, I have blessed God for the Maryland Union Commission. My only regret has been, that the charity put at your disposal by the benevolent, was not equal to the need of the suffering victims of the war and to the generous impulses of the heart of the Commission to spread light and comfort over those dark scenes of want, suffering and death.

Yours, in the service of the Lord Jesus,

G. WM. WELKER.

LINCOLNTON, N. C., Feb. 15, 1866.

G. S. Griffith, Esq., Pres. Md. U. Com. :

DEAR SIR :—Your letter, dated January 26th, informing me of the shipment of two boxes of books, goods, &c., was duly received. I am happy to be able to inform you that the boxes came safely to hand. I return to you my sincere thanks for your personal kindness. Please present my thanks to the Maryland Union Commission, of which you are the President, for the papers, pamphlets, &c., which accompanied the goods. I hope and pray, that He who has promised to reward the giver of a cup of cold water to one of His little ones, will reward you all for your many acts of kindness, and especially reward you for this act of kindness, which has both refreshed my spirits, and laid me under lasting obligations of gratitude.

I am, yours truly,

J. INGOLD.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

DISBURSEMENTS.	CASH RECEIPTS.
Paid for purchase of goods, provisions, grain, cloth- ing, medicines, &c..... \$4,415 41	\$12,420 63
Publications, advertis'g, ac- knowledgments, express, drayage, postage..... 732 42	
Board of refugees, while they were seeking employ- ment..... 415 72	
Paid for salaries..... 1,130 00	
Traveling expenses, collect- ing, organizing Branch Associations, and explor- ing field 557 08	
Paid for publishing report.. 40 00	
Paid to individuals, and families, and for transpor- tation of refugees..... 5,130 00	
\$12,420 63	\$12,420 63

We, the undersigned, appointed to examine the books and accounts of the Maryland Union Commission, respectfully report, that we find the books in order, and the accounts correct, supported by proper vouchers.

W. A. WISONG,
J. C. BRIDGES,
W. F. CAREY.

GOODS.

Number of cases of goods received and distributed.....	273
“ “ garments distributed.....	2,740
“ “ yards cloth “	330

INDIVIDUALS.

Number of individuals assisted with money.....	431
“ “ “ “ “ goods	518

FAMILIES.

Number of families assisted with money.....	177
“ “ “ “ “ goods.....	315
Total number of individuals and families assisted with money and goods	1,441

PUBLICATIONS.

Number of Bibles distributed.....	1,005
“ “ Testaments “	1,930
“ “ Library Books distributed.....	6,662
“ “ Religious papers, pamphlets, small books, &c., distributed...	2 575

At At a low calculation, the value of the stores distributed is estimated at \$11,700, making, with money distributed, \$24,120.63 distributed.

DONATIONS.

G. S. Griffith.....	\$500 00	A Friend, through Rev. Dr.	
Jesse Tyson.....	250 00	Dickson.....	5 00
J. C. Bridges.....	100 00	Ger. Ref. and Pres. Cong. per	
Dr. John Fisher.....	100 00	Rev. W. B. Scarborough...	32 12
Collection at Charles St. M.		Ger. Ref. and Luth. Cong.	
E. Church.....	182 22	Shrewsbury, York Co., Pa.	23 00
Miss Porter.....	3 00	Broadway M. E. Church, per	
Mr. Lough.....	10 00	Rev. A. E. Gibson.....	66 80
Mr. Williams.....	1 00	Whatecoat M. E. Church, Rev.	
Rev. Dr. Fuller.....	20 00	C. Tippet.....	22 00
J. N. Brown.....	6 50	J. Corner & Sons.....	50 00
Second Presbyterian Church	31 92	Mr. Rose.....	1 00
W. F. Murdock.....	5 00	J. R. Kelso.....	50 00
Monument St. M. E. Church	23 38	Ger. Ref. Church, Paradise, Pa	63 75
Kirkland, Chase & Co.....	100 00	Strawberry Ridge.....	5 34
W. A. Rodenmayer.....	25 00	Miss Whitworth.....	1 00
Sherwood & Co.....	16 00	F. Lightner.....	5 00
Third German Ref. Church,		Hebrew Church.....	10 00
Baltimore.....	26 76	Westminster Church, Balto.	
First English Luth. Church..	50 00	Rev. Dr. Dickson.....	230 71
Union Square M. E. Church..	16 79	Ger. Ref. Church, Nockamix-	
Madison Ave. M. E. Church..	25 15	on, Buckville, Pa.....	14 00
Light St. M. E. Church.....	41 00	J. S. Waters.....	5 00
Second Pres. Church, Balto..	70 00	Isaac Norris.....	50 00
Cash.....	5 00	St. John Lutheran Church,	
Rev. D. E. Reese, Frederick..	10 85	Rev. C. H. Brandau.....	44 25
Chatsworth M. E. Church...	35 83	M. Keith, Jr., & Sons.....	25 00
Rev. R. Norris.....	6 60	W. F. Cary.....	5 00
Dr. J. H. McCullough.....	50 00	Eutaw M. E. Church, Rev.	
W. B. Canfield.....	10 00	J. A. McCauley.....	31 95
G. W. Gail & Ax.....	100 00	Rev. John Kulling.....	5 00
Harford Ave. M. E. Church	7 65	M. W. Forney.....	10 00
M. E. Church, Frederick.....	12 50	Rev. H. Schieb.....	162 00
Ref. New Oxford Church, Pa.,		A. Schumaker... ..	100 00
W. F. K. Davis.....	13 00	A Friend, S. W.....	50 00
J. R. Kelso, Jr.....	20 00	Miss E. T.....	200 00
Mary S. Kelso.. ..	5 00	F. C. Hall.....	1 50
Hebrew Church, Rev. H.		Krische & Oelbermann, Phil.	25 00
Hockheimer.....	25 00	Fayette Street M. E. Church	
Ger. Ref. Church, Alexan-		through H. W. Drakely...	660 60
dria, Pa., per Rev. J. W.		Ger. Ref. Church, Frederick,	
Love.....	31 25	Rev. Dr. Zacharias.....	43 50
Ger. Ref. Church, Manches-		Constitutional Pres. Church	25 00
ter, Carroll Co., per Rev.		Cash, collected from sundry	
J. W. Hoffman.....	10 00	parties, through Rev. O.	
Ger. Ref. Church, Hunting-		M. McDowall.....	51 00
don Co., Pa.....	12 00	Wilkesbarre M. E. Church...	18 50
Rabbi of Oheb. Shalom Cong.		Woodville M. E. Church.....	8 08
of Balto.....	150 00	Cash, collected through Rev.	
Presbyterian Church, Fred-		E. E. Allen.....	46 70
erick, Rev. R. H. Williams	52 00	Jas. R. Drege.....	20 00
From sundry parties through		Cash from rent of steamer...	25 00
G. S. Griffith.....	140 00	Louis Weiglein.....	10 00

D. B. Kurtz.....	5 00	Bridge St. Church, per Rev.	
J. Cooper Price, Rochester,		W. H. Dongal.....	40 00
New York.....	100 00	First German M. E. Church,	
Cash.....	1 00	per J. G. Lutz.....	11 00
Miss Birnie.....	25 00	Monument St. and Harford	
Rev. G. R. Bent, agent U. S.		Ave. M. E. Churches.....	22 31
Chris. Com.....	100 00	Luth'n. Church, Tiffin, Ohio,	
Ger. Ref. Church, Race St.,		W. W. Curley.....	18 48
Phila., per Chas. Santee...	158 00	M. E. Church, Port Deposit	17 00
Prof. M. L. Stoever.....	5 00	M. E. Church, Huntingdon,	
R. G. McCreary.....	10 00	Pa., J. A. Price.....	24 34
Jas. S. Long.....	20 00	Rev. D. S. Monroe, Curwens-	
Luth. Congregation, Bruns-		ville, Pa.....	35 00
wick, N. Y.....	75 00	H. C. Pardoe, Middletown...	20 00
Cash from Pittston, Penn.,		South River M. E. Church,	
through Rev. O. M. Mc-		per Rev. S. H. Cummings	88 18
Dowall.....	14 00	Rev. S. Earle, Mechanicsto'n	8 00
W. H. Lawall, thro' Chas.		Rev. Hy. Wood, Pres. Ch'ch,	
Santee.....	20 00	Steubenville, Ohio.....	60 00
J. W. Santee.....	5 00	Lutherville Union Chris. As-	
Rev. George Pearson.....	5 00	sociation, Rev. W. M. Hi-	
Per Rev. Henry M. Nixdorf..	39 00	lig.....	42 93
C. Cooke, Smyrna, Del.....	42 00	Rev. D. S. Monroe, Curwens-	
H. D. Harvey.....	10 00	ville, Pa.....	5 00
W. H. Curry.....	30 00	Second Pres. Church, Rev.	
Rev. J. M. Grether, Ashland		G. P. Hays.....	20 00
Co., Ohio.....	10 00	J. W. Wright, Gallopville,	
Smithfie'd Baptist Church,		N. Y.....	21 17
thro' Rev. W. A. Barnes...	2 83	Lutheran Church, Berlin, Pa.	17 20
Mrs. Margaret Smith.....	10 00	A Lady.....	15 00
Mill Creek Baptist Church,		Sardinia, Indiana, Presbyte-	
thro' Rev. W. A. Barnes..	2 03	rian Church, R. T. Patter-	
Chas. A. Morris, York, Pa..	50 00	son.....	5 00
Mrs. H. Grant.....	1 00	J. H. Der Hamel, St. Thom-	
Rev. J. W. Hammersley,		as Church, Newark.....	2 40
Camden, Del.....	75 00	Methodist Protestant, R. S.	
J. G. White, Greensboro', Del.	10 00	Rowe.....	5 00
Additional from Fayette St.		J. Selmsr, Clermont, Co-	
M. E. Church, through H.		lumbia Co., N. Y.....	35 00
W. Drakely.....	128 00	D. H. Barron, Hollidaysburg	33 00
Dr. McCullough.....	5 00	A. Bedford, Waverly, Lu-	
Aisquith St. Pres. Church...	14 50	zerne Co., Pa.....	23 47
Wesley Chapel, per Rev. W.		Samuel Small, York, Pa...	100 00
H. Chapman.....	26 29	Mrs. Saml. Small, " "...	50 00
Associate Reformed Congre-		Chas. A. Morris, " "...	50 00
gation, per Rev. F. Israel	61 75	David E. Small, " "...	50 00
Second Presbyterian Church,		P. A. Small, " "...	50 00
per Rev. G. P. Hays.....	40 00	E. G. Smyser, " "...	25 00
Williamsburg M. E. Church,		Dr. H. M. McClellan, " "...	10 00
Rev. Jno. A. Dixon.....	15 25	J. H. Small, " "...	10 00
Presby'n. Church, Frederick.		H. Welch, " "...	10 00
thro' Rev. R. H. Williams	80 00	Seve al working men " "...	5 00
McKendree M. E. Church,		E. B. Bender, " "...	5 00
Washington.....	16 95	Root & Case, " "...	5 00
William St. M. E. Church...	27 11	Cash from sundry parties,	
R. C. Haslup, Emmittsburg	3 50	York, Pa.....	29 00
High St. M. E. Church.....	38 92	Bear & Winter, " "...	5 00
Spruce Creek, Pa., per Rev.		Henry Ebert, " "...	5 00
D. G. Owens.....	24 75	John Herr, " "...	5 00

W. H. Kertz, York, Pa...	5 00	Cash.....	5 00
V. K. Keeseey, " "...	5 00	M. D. Meyer.....	5 00
Geo. A. Barnett, " "...	5 00	Cash—four \$5's.....	20 00
Thos. White, " "...	5 00	L. S. Bryan & Co.....	5 00
John Fahs, " "...	5 00	A. Stirling.....	5 00
Mrs. Mary Schmidt, " "...	3 00	Cash.....	5 00
Miss Kurtz, " "...	3 00	Cash, from sundry parties. .	39 75
A. B. Farquhar, " "...	3 00	Thomas C. Basshor & Co.....	10 00
A. Louch, " "...	2 00	Madison Ave. M. E. Church,	
Hiram Young, " "...	2 00	Rev. B. P. Brown.....	87 09
Mrs. J. C. Gregg, " "...	2 00	Zion Evang. Luth. Church,	
Miss L. A. Wotherspoon " "...	2 00	West Sandlake	10 25
J. Stair, " "...	2 00	Wm. Harty, of Hollidaysb'g	10 00
Jas Kell, " "...	2 00	Presb'n Church, Annapolis,	
Col. Geo Hay, " "...	2 00	Isaac Patterson.....	30 48
B. F. Hantz, " "...	2 00	J. B. Kedder, of Shrewsbury-	
H D. Schmidt, " "...	2 00	burg	1 25
Mrs C. Fishel, " "...	2 00	Additional from Pres. Ch'ch,	
First Luth. Church, " "...	21 63	Frederick.	1 00
Mrs. C. A. West, " "...	13 50	American Union Commission	
Mrs. H. Kauffelt, " "...	1 00	New York.....	1,000 00
D. Heckert, " "...	1 00	Mrs G. S. Griffith.....	10 00
Belle M. Gallagher, " "...	1 00	Union M. E. Church, Wil-	
F. J. Evans, " "...	1 00	mington, Del.....	31 50
Mrs. Rachael Stair, " "...	1 00	Isaac Albertson.....	1 00
Jacob Selly, " "...	1 00	J. W. Weirs, Harrisburg, Pa	100 00
J. Bastress, " "...	1 00	Jas. McCormick, " "...	100 00
Mrs. Lydia Owen, " "...	1 00	Charles L. Bailey, " "...	50 00
Mrs. Martin Weigle, " "...	1 00	Hon. V. A. Hammel, " "...	10 00
John Fash, Jr., " "...	1 00	Rev. Jas Colden, " "...	10 00
J. K. Fishel, " "...	1 00	A. Hummel, " "...	10 00
Miss M. Goodyear, " "...	1 00	Hon. Dav. Flemming, " "...	10 00
Mrs. H. Laurens, " "...	1 00	Cash, from sundry parties,	
Methodist Dutch Reformed		Harrisburg, Pa...	16 00
Church, Long Branch.....	7 59	Mrs. J. S. Halderman, " "...	10 00
Pennsburg S. S., Chester Co.,		Two Ladies of Harrisb'g, Pa.	7 50
Pa.....	40 00	Mrs A. B. Har ord, " "...	5 00
George J Appold.....	50 00	J. C. B., " "...	5 00
A. G. Broadbent.....	50 00	John B. Surion, " "...	5 00
James J. Fisher.....	50 00	Hon. Wm. Dock, " "...	5 00
Stillman, Hinriehs & Co.....	25 00	R. H. Hummel, " "...	1 00
Poole & Hunt.....	25 00	W. R. Verbeck, " "...	2 00
Wm. Bridges & Son.....	20 00	Mrs. C. Hutchinson, " "...	50
Woodward, Baldwin & Co...	25 00	W. H. Kelly.....	5 00
Charles Markell.....	20 00	R. G. McCreary	20 00
Dix & Steiner.....	25 00	M. E. Church, Millingt'n, Md	3 00
S. S. Stevens & Son.....	25 00	Bridge St. Pres. Church.....	6 50
Wm. Wilkins, Jr., & Co.....	25 00	Baptist Church Causeway....	7 40
E. L. Parker & Co.....	25 00	Cash, collected from sundry	
W. Corwin Burgy.....	25 00	parties, through Rev. O.	
Huntington Ave. Church...	20 00	M. McDowall	72 00
Wm. Fuller.....	10 00	Miss Johns, Harford, per Rev	
W. R. Johnson.....	10 00	George P. Hays.....	2 00
George Small	10 00	Rev S. W. Sears, Cumber-	
W. C. Conine.....	10 00	land, Md.....	6 50
G. S. Rodgers	10 00	M. L. Smyser, Frederick Cir-	
J. Q. A. Herring.....	5 00	cuit, E. Balto. Conf.....	76 36
A. G. Meyer.....	5 00	J. G. Moore, Shippensburg...	3 00
Cash.....	5 00	Western Va.	1 00

Cash, from sundry parties, thro' Rev. O. M. McDowall,	110 00	John Cushing, through Rev. Mr. Israel.	50 00
Collection, Fayette St. M. E. Church.....	101 27	Lutheran Church, through Rev. Mr. Strobel.....	23 00
Ger. Ref. Church, Pa. mo- ney and goods.....	225 00	Samuel Summey } Nobsv'le, A J. Fore..... } N. Y.	5 00
Hon. Jno. Patton, Curwens- ville, Pa.....	1,000 00	David Fore }	5 00
Cash, from sundry parties in Curwensville, Pa., through		Mrs. Hartsough, Dryden, N. York	5 00
Rev. D. S. Monroe.....	55 00	Collected, through Rev. O. M. McDowall	2 43
South River M. E. Church, per Rev. S. H. Cummings	14 25	Cash, collected in money and goods in Western Va., thro'	
Berkly Spring Circuit, Rev. B. H. Smith.....	12 35	Rev. J. L. Irvin.....	635 00
Rev. D. S. Monroe, Curwens- ville, Pa	3 00	Long Green Circuit, Rev. L. D Heran.....	30 41
Cash, collected through Rev. O. M. McDowall.....	72 65	Rev. M. L. Smyer.....	3 00
Alfred Kileshere, Bridgeport, Md.....	1 50	Francis T King	10 00
Charles L. Streamer, Snicks- burg, Pa	1 00	Cash, collected in Browns- ville and Union Town, Va., by Rev. J L Irvin.....	183 00
Rev. G. Weber, Anamosa Congregation.....	1 10	Mrs Markin, thro' Rev. R. H. Williams.....	2 00
H. G. Bowers, of Jefferson...	5 00	Cash, from sundry parties, thro' Rev. S. H. Cummings	11 00
First Ger. Ref. Church, Bal- timore.....	110 40	Evang Ref Church, Freder- ick.....	22 00
Tillie Butz, Easton, Pa.	5 00	Cash, from sale of steamer...	325 00
Cash, from sundry parties, through Rev. O. M. Mc- Dowall.....	150 00		

\$12,420 63

JNO. N. BROWN,
Treasurer.

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